

Message Text

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SUBJ: WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE

ALTHOUGH EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN SPARSE ON THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE BEING HELD IN BUCHAREST, PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN GOOD. THE TOPIC OF WORLD POPULATION HAS NOT BEEN DOWNPLAYED BECAUSE OF ANY STRICTURES LATENT IN SPANISH ATTITUDES ON THE SUBJECT.

THERE HAS BEEN A RATHER NEGATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS SO FAR; THE POINTS MOST COMMONLY EMPHASIZED ARE, THE SPLITTING OF VIEWPOINTS IN THE CONFERENCE INTO TWO GENERAL ATTITUDES AND THE POLITICIZATION OF THE ISSUES, AND COMMENTATORS APPEAR TO FEEL SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE RESULTS.

ABC (MONARCHIST), EDITORIAL 8/27/74. "BOTH THE ATTITUDES EXPRESSED IN THE CONFERENCE COINCIDE IN THINKING THAT FAMILY PLANNING IS NECESSARY.

"SOME (COUNTRIES) - THE WEALTHY WESTERN NATIONS - HAVE ALREADY ATTAINED A SUFFICIENT AND COMFORTABLE LEVEL OF WELL BEING, AND THE REST HOPE TO REACH IT WITHIN THE NEXT DECADES....

"THE COMMON AND SUBSTANTIAL DRAWBACK OF BOTH ATTITUDES IS THAT NEITHER OF THEM SEEMS TO BE AWARE - CHINESE AND AMERICANS HAVE BEEN THE LOUDEST ARGUERS UP TO NOW - OF SUCH A SUBSTANTIAL FACTOR AS INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM...

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"ECONOMIES ARE OPEN IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO EXIST. THERE

ARE NO COUNTRIES ANY MORE, BUT REGIONS AND WHOLE CONTINENTS
AND THE AMERICAN, AND THE CHINESE, MISTAKE IS THAT THEY
PRETEND THAT ONLY ONE FORMULA - THEIR FORMULA - SHOULD BE
EVERYONE'S FORMULA."

YA (ROMAN CATHOLIC) 8/29/74, MADRID. FROM A COLUMNIST.
"THE POPULATION CONFERENCE IS BECOMING A VERITABLE POLITICAL
BLOCS MEETING...

"FOR THE AMERICAN DELEGATES, THE POPULATION INCREASE
CONSTITUTES A THREAT; FOR THEIR OPPONENTS, IT IS 'THE
GREATEST WEALTH' A COUNTRY MAY HAVE...

"IT IS JUST A NEW KIND OF CLASH BETWEEN THE POLITICAL
PHILOSOPHY OF FREEDOM AND THE TENETS OF TOTALITARIANISM.
IT IS A WELL ESTABLISHED FACT THAT TOTALITARIAN REGIMES
HAVE ALWAYS BEEN IN FAVOR OF POPULATION INCREASES...

"IN THE END EVERYTHING WILL FINISH AS UN DEBATES FINISH;
EITHER NO AGREEMENT IS REACHED,OR, IF A CONSENSUS IS
REACHED, NO COUNTRIES WILL BE LACKING TO EXPRESS THEIR
DISAGREEMENT AND TO INDICATE QUITE CLEARLY THAT THEY
HAVE NO INTENTION TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREED MEASURES."

ARRIBA (SPANISH MOVEMENT), 8/29/74 MADRID. "AS IT MIGHT HAVE
BEEN EXPECTED, THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE HAS BECOME A
POLITICAL DEBATE, OR RATHER A CONFRONTATION OF 'RICH' AND
'POOR' COUNTRIES, SPEAKING IN BROAD TERMS. THE MAIN
MEASURES AGAINST THE BIRTH-RATE SUGGESTED BY A GROUP OF
UN EXPERTS HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY A GOOD MANY COUNTRIES
OF DIFFERENT IDEOLOGIES AND LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT.

BROADLY SPEAKING, THE DELEGATIONS HAVE CONSIDERED THAT
'BIRTH CONTROL' IS JUST A TOOL USED BY THE SUPERDEVELOPED
WESTERN COUNTRIES." ITEM.
RYLANCE.

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